

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 8, and 21-33 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 6, and 8 are amended, Claims 7 and 9-20 are canceled without prejudice, and Claims 21-33 are added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings were objected to; Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Applicants' Background Art (ABA); and Claims 6-10 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In view of that indication, independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of dependent Claim 9, and Claims 7 and 9-20 have been canceled.

In addition, new independent Claim 21 includes the allowable subject matter of Claim 10 and the features of its base claim and new independent Claim 28 includes the allowable subject matter of Claim 6 and the features of its base claim. However, the features of Claim 6 have been added to new Claim 28 with one modification, i.e., the term "formed" has been substituted with the term "including" such that dependent Claim 30 is consistent with new Claim 28. No new matter has been added.

Further, new Claims 22-27 are dependent from Claim 21 and correspond to original Claims 2-6 and 8, respectively, and Claims 29-33 are dependent from Claim 28 and correspond to original Claims 7, 8, and 3-5, respectively. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 21, and 28, and each of the claims depending therefrom are in condition for formal allowance.

Regarding the objection to the drawings, Figures 20 and 21 are amended as suggested by the outstanding Office Action without adding new matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted this objection be withdrawn.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Figures 20 and 21 of the present specification, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the outstanding Office Action did not establish that Figures 20 and 21 were known more than one year prior to filing this application, as required under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). In addition, this rejection is moot because independent Claim 1 has been amended to recite the allowable subject matter of dependent Claim 9.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 20 and 21. These sheets, which include Figs. 20 and 21, replace the original sheets including Figs. 20 and 21.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets